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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): APPLIED RESEARCH SYSTEMS ARS HOLDING N.V. [NL/NL]; Pietermaai 15, NL-NL Curaçao (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PROUDFOOT, Amanda [CH/FR]; Sous Chens, F-74140 Chens Sur Leman (FR). KOSCO-VILBOIS, Marie [US/FR]; Le Cret, F-74270 Minzier (FR).

(74) Agent: SERONO INTERNATIONAL S.A. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY; 12, Chemin des Aulx, CH-1228 Plan-les-Ouates (CH).

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(54) Title: NOVEL ANTAGONISTS OF CXCR3-BINDING CXC CHEMOKINES

(57) Abstract: Novel antagonists of CXCR3 -binding CXC chemokines, and in particular of human CXCL11, can be obtained by generating mutants of such chemokines in which the binding to glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) is impaired due to non-conservative substitutions of amino acids involved in this interaction. Compounds prepared in accordance with the present invention can be used to block the activity of CXCR3-binding CXC chemokines on CXCR3 -expressing cells, thereby providing therapeutic compositions for use in the treatment or prevention of diseases related to excessive activated T cells migration, such as graft rejection and autoimmune diseases, and of diseases needing an increase of vascularization, such as ischemic heart disease.